(b) Steps being taken to augment domestic production of coal to bridge the gap between demand and supply of coal inter-alia include the following:

(i) Opening up of new mines and increasing efficiency and productivity in the existing mines by modernisation, application of new technologies and ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructure! facilities.

(ii) Partial de-regulation of coal prices which is likely to improve the generation to internal financial resources of the coal companies which will facilitate implementation of projects. It will also improve the financial viability of new mining projects.

(iii) The capital base of Coal India Limited has been restructured which will enable it to raise additional financial resources from the capital markets which are required to add new coal production capacity.

(iv) Steps are being taken in co-ordination with the Railways to remove the transportation bottlenecks in such coalfield areas which have potential for-enhanced production.

(v) Steps are being taken to remove the bottlenecks in land acquisition and forest land clearances for speedier implementation of coal projects.

(vi) Private sector companies engaged in production of iron and steel, cement and generation of power have been permitted to take up coal mining for captive consumption. This is expected to increase domestic coal production and availability.

(vii) To attract private investment in the coal sector. Government has decided to move a Bill to make the necessary legislative changes relating to coal mining to enable any Indian company to mine coal and lignite for sale.

Demand for coal by steel industry

3815. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the demand for coal by the steel industry at the end of the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether the steel and power companies will be given priority clearance for mining of coal for these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Working Group on coal and lignite has projected a demand of coal by steel industry at 49.60 million tonnes and 64 million tonnes respectively for terminal year of 9th Five Year Plan and 10th Five Year Plan.

(b) Coal Mines Nationalisational Act, 1973 has been amended to allow coal mining by companies engaged in the production of steel and power, for captive consumption.

Production of coal

3816. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of coal undertaken so far by various coal mines in the country, coal mine-wise;

(b) ihe details of schemes and programmes sponsored and being implemented by Government for the welfare of the coal mine workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reason therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Golliery-wise coal production in the country for the year 1995-96 is given in the Coal Directory of India, a copy of the Coal Directory for 1995-96 has been made available to the Library of the Parliament. The Coal

Directory for 1996-97 is under publication. However company-wise coal production in the country during 1996-97 is as under:—

Company	(mill on tonnes)
	(Pro visional)
ECL	29.65
BCCL	27.13
CCL	32.21
NCL	37.01
WCL	31.23
SECL	55.30
MCL	37.37
NEC	0.75
CIL	250.65
SCCL	28.73
CAPTIVE COLLIERIES (TISCO, IISCO & DVC)	6.28
TOTAL	286.66

(b) to (e) A massive welfare programme for improving the quality of life of the coal miners has been undertaken in Coal India Limited (CIL) since the post nationalisation period. Some of the achievements in this regard are as under:—

	At the time of Nationalisation	As on 1.1.97
Housing satisfaction	21.7%	62.18%
Population covered under water supply scheme	227300	2304467
Number of hospitals	49	85
Number of hospital beds	1482	5760
Number of dispensaries	197	447
Number of ambulances	42	672
Number of schools and colleges and the periphery of the coalfields getting grant-in-aid by caol companies.	287	1346
Number of canteens	210	446
Number of co-operatives	177	313

Projected demand for coal

3817. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the projected demand for coal in the country particularly in the State of Punjab by the end of Ninth Five Year plan period;

(b) whether Government propose to formulate any scheme to meet this demand in the country;

(c) if so the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The deamand for coal in the country by the end of 9th Five Year Plan, as assessed by Working Group on coal and lignite, is 439.70 million tonnes. The demand for coal is assessed sector-wise and not state-wise. This demand includes the demand of consuming sectors in Punjab.

(b) to (d) Steps being taken to augment domestic production of coal to bridge the gap between demand and supply of coal during the 9th Five Year Plan inter-alia, include the following:

(i) Opening up of new mines and increasing efficiency and productivity in the existing mines by modernisation, application of new technologies and ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities.

(ii) Partial de-regualtion of coal prices which is likely to improve the generation of internal financial resources of the coal companies which will facilitate implementation of projects. It will also improve the financial viability of new mining projects.

(iii) The capital base of Coal India Limited has been restructured which will enable it to raise additional financial resources from the capital markets which are required to add new coal production capacity.

(iv) Steps are being taken in co-ordination with the Railways to remove the transportation bottlenecks in such coalfield